

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-17, 19-66 and 69-72 were cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 18, 67-68, and 73-89 are pending.

Claims 18, 67, 77, and 83 are independent.

Claims 18, 67, 68 and 73-89 are rejected.

Points of Discussion

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for her time during a teleconference on August 8, 2007. Claim 18 and Sobotka were briefly discussed. Although no specific agreement was reached, the discussion helped direct the Applicants to the claim amendments now presented.

Claims Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 18, 67-68, and 73-88 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sobotka et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,197,004) in view of Tunkelang (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2003/0120630).

Claim 18

Applicants have amended claim 18 so that it now recites:

generating desired job candidate criteria via extraction of concepts from job candidate data for the particular employee having desired characteristics, wherein the job candidate data for the particular employee comprises a resume of the particular employee having desired characteristics;

For example, the application describes "cloning" starting at page 40 line 22, through page 42. As recited, the desired job candidate criteria are generated via extraction of concepts from data (i.e., including a resume) of a particular employee having desired characteristics (i.e., the cloned employee).

As understood by Applicants, Sobotka and Tunkelang fail to teach or suggest such an arrangement, either alone or in combination. Accordingly, Applicants believe the claimed arrangement is patentable over the two references.

Other aspects of the claim also distinguish over the references (e.g., “n-dimensional concept space”). However, in the interest of brevity, Applicants will let the claim speak for itself.

For at least these reasons, claim 18 and its dependent claims, 73-76 and 89, are allowable over Sobotka and Tunkelang.

Claim 67

Claim 67 has been amended to recite:

generating desired job candidate characteristics via extraction of concepts from job candidate data for the particular employee having characteristics desired to fill the position, wherein the job candidate data comprises a resume of the particular employee having desired characteristics;

As understood by Applicants, Sobotka and Tunkelang, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest such an arrangement. Accordingly, claim 67 and its dependent claim, 68, are allowable over the two references.

Claim 77

Claim 77 has been amended to recite:

generating desired job candidate criteria via extraction of concepts from job candidate data for the particular employee having desired characteristics, wherein the job candidate data for the particular employee comprises a resume of the particular employee having desired characteristics;

As understood by Applicants, Sobotka and Tunkelang, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest such an arrangement. Accordingly, claim 77 and its dependent claims, 78-82, are allowable over the two references.

Claim 83

Claim 83 has been amended to recite:

generating desired job candidate criteria via extraction of concepts from job candidate data for the particular employee having desired characteristics, wherein the job candidate data for the particular employee comprises a resume of the particular employee having desired characteristics;

As understood by Applicants, Sobotka and Tunkelang, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest such an arrangement. Accordingly, claim 83 and its dependent claims, 84-88, are allowable over the two references.

Request for Interview

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office Action in order to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite prosecution.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

Conclusion

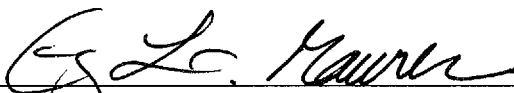
The claims in their present form should now be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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